



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/890,585	02/19/2002	Thomas Knodler	3105.002USU	6312

7590 04/26/2004
Paul D Greeley
Ohlandt Greeley Ruggiero & Perle LLP
One Landmark Square 10th Floor
Stamford, CT 06901-2682

EXAMINER

PSITOS, ARISTOTELIS M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2653

DATE MAILED: 04/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/890,585

Applicant(s)

KNODLER ET AL.

Examiner

Aristotelis M Psitos

Art Unit

2653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/11/04 & 3/31/04.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/31/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2653

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicants' response of 2/11/04 has been considered with the following results. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement filed 3/31/04 has been made of record with the exception of the PCT document. As far as the examiner can ascertain this is not a complete patent document and hence fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98. The letter of relevancy has been considered, and the examiner assumes that this is not to be printed on the face of any patent maturing from this application. If this is incorrect, then the examiner will "un delete" reference thereto.

Specification

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The examiner maintains the object to the title.

Drawings

4. The examiner approves the proposed corrections/new drawings and final drawings should now be submitted (along with any response to this outstanding OA).

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

Art Unit: 2653

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

7. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

8. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jain further considered with Katz et al.

Jain discloses in this environment a base layer having an appropriate image recorded thereon. As noted in the abstract a second layer is laminated thereon, this second layer providing for the appropriate function, and being as noted, alphanumeric/bar code(s). Although Jain acknowledged prior art holographic images, the document does not specify that the base image is indeed such.

As taught by Katz et al, the ability of having holographic images on the surface of such cards is well known – see abstract and col. 1 lines 44 to col. 2 line 2.

It would have been obvious to modify the base system of Jain with the above teaching from Katz et al, motivation is as discussed in Katz to increase the security of the overall product.

The limitation of claim 2 is considered met by the above combination of references, i.e., a “safety seal”.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Art Unit: 2653

10. Claims 3, 4, 5 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the art as applied to claim 1 as stated above and further in view of Toye et al.

With respect to claims 3, 4, and 5 although the base reference disclose lamination, there is no specific mention of an adhesive, or the transparent perforations. Toye et al discloses the ability of using adhesives in this environment for their inherent use/ability as well as having a plurality of transparent perforations wherein such perforations are responsive to particular light transmissivities (colored gelatin for example) and may or may not be related to color – see col. 4 lines 32-45 for instance.

The examiner interprets such as meeting/teaching the limitations of these claims.

It would have been obvious to modify the base system as stated above with respect to claims 1 and 2 with the above teachings from Toye et al, motivation is as discussed in Toye et al, to increase the security of the document.

With respect to claim 9, as interpreted by the examiner Toye et al permits his material to provide appropriate material for various colors, hence meeting this claims limitations. Since no specific/detail disclosure is found to define these ratios the examiner concludes that such is met by the Toye et al document.

11. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the art as applied to claims 1 and 2 as stated above, and further in view of Stenzel.

The ability of having a luminous layer is taught by the fluorescent layer 3 in the Stenzel document.

It would have been obvious to modify the base system as stated above with the additional teaching from Stenzel, again motivation is to increase the security of the document.

12. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the art as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Samyn.

With respect to the particular range as specified by claim 7, such is taught by the Samyn document – see the discussion at col. 2 starting at line 1.

It would have been obvious to modify the base system as relied upon with respect to claim 6 with the additional teaching from Samyn, motivation is to increase the security of the end product.

Art Unit: 2653

13. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the art as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Fujita et al.

Fujita et al – teaches the ability “shielding” layers in this environment – see especially the overall description with respect to figure 2. Since Toye et al provides for “holes”, the examiner interprets the claimed phrase “point light mask” as being a shielding layer (mask) with holes therein. Hence, the examiner concludes that because shields/masks in this environment are known for their ability to increase the security of the end product, the ability of having a “point light mask” (think of a holey layer) as met by the above combination of references and obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Alternatively, familiar with such “point light mask” is well known from that familiar childhood game, “peek –a- boo”, using one's hands as the mask, and spreading ones' fingers accordingly. In an event, the examiner concludes that such is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

With respect to the placement of this mask, Fujita et al does disclose the placing of his shield at various layers/positions with respect to the information layer. Placing such a mask in the particular location is mere considered an obvious variant predicated upon manufacturing costs, etc.

14. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the art as applied to claim 1 as stated above, and further in view of Curiel.

With respect to claim 10, the ability of providing a molded (injected) as the information structure yielding the appropriate diffraction is taught by the above noted Curiel document , see col. 2 lines 53 plus.

It would have been obvious to modify the base system with the above injection molding technique, motivation is to provide an appropriate manufactured article using existing techniques and hence saving valuable resources in not having to redesign manufacturing equipment to create the article/hologram.

Conclusion

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Heckenhamp et al – various data carriers with appropriate lamina; Kaish et al – discussion with respect to various security cards and manufacturing techniques thereof.

Art Unit: 2653

In addition,

Ruell, discloses an optical record, (such as a credit card) wherein in order to authenticate the information, additional information is encoded thereon. The key information (for authentication) can be incorporated in a hologram – see col. 1 line 48 to col. 2 line 30. Hence the examiner concludes that the limitations of claim 1 are present and met.

Babbitt discloses an optical record wherein an “encoded” hologram strip is present in order to ensure proper identification. This strip is discloses as being a “key” and necessary in order for the information to be properly decoded.

Behnke discloses an identification card, wherein additional Key information is encrypted by use of a hologram, see col. 2 lines 62-64.

16. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Hard copies of the application files are now separated from this examining corps, hence the examiner can answer no questions that requires a review of the file without sufficient lead-time.

Any inquiries concerning missing papers/references, etc. must be directed to Group 2600 Customer Services at (703) 306-0377.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aristotelis M Psitos whose telephone number is (703) 308-1598. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thursday 8 - 4.

Art Unit: 2653

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William R. Korzuch can be reached on (703) 305-6137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Aristotelis M Psitos
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2653

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Psitos', written over a faint, stylized outline of a head and neck.

AMP